The Philippines Air Lines (PAL),[60] the largest domestic operator, carries between 240,000 and 300,000 passengers per year in its domestic service. Interisland vessels stop daily at Dumaguete where ocean-going ships also load copra. Bais and San Carlos have facilities for ocean liners. The most important port in Negros Occidental is Pulupandan where the ships plying between Manila and Iloilo usually dock. Ocean-going steamers call at Pulupandan and Escalante to load sugar. Sailboats carry goods and passengers between Manapla and Ajuy, Iloilo.[61] Foreign vessels load lumber from Fabrica at Sagay and medium-size interisland steamers dock at Banago pier in Bacolod.[62]

The roads of Negros are vital arteries of cultural change. In Negros, Dumaguete and Bacolod are the major mobilization centers of western culture. In these cities are concentrated the hospitals, high schools and universities, the magic of the cinema, magazine and book shops, stores crowded with merchandise unavailable in rural areas. South of Dumaguete in 1951 there was only one physician and no dentist. In the provincial capital barriofolk may see new automobiles, and crews from French or Norwegian ships, listen

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[60] Spencer, op. cit., p.254.

[61] Carlos L. Locsin and Filomeno T. Tabayoyong, Soils of the Victorias Milling District: A Handbook for the Planters of the District. Bacolod, Negros, Nalco Press, 1953, p.14.

[62] Alicante and others, op. cit., p.12.